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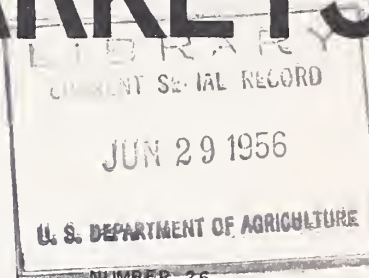


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# Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1956

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## CONTENTS

	PAGE
COTTON	
U. S. Authorizes Exports of Cotton at Competitive Prices.....	856
Italy Modifies Import Taxes on U. S. Cotton.....	857
India Resumes Cotton Futures Trading.....	858
U. S. Cotton Exports by Country of Destination.....	858
U. S. Share of Foreign Cotton Markets Reduced.....	861
Brazil Limiting Exports of Higher Grade Cottons by Price Increases.....	861
DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	
Mexican Dairy Situation in 1955.....	852
Fluid Milk Prices Rise in Argentina.....	852
Dairy Price System in Ireland, 1955.....	853
Spanish Dairy Production Down in 1955.....	853
U. S. Butter Tested by Belgium.....	854
Quality Payment for Fluid Milk Expanded in Switzerland.....	854
Efforts Made to Reduce Cheese and Butter Stocks in Italy.....	855
Butter Information Council Steps Up U.K. Advertising Campaign.....	855
FATS, OILSEEDS AND OILS	
Argentina Raises Import Prices for Oilseed Crops.....	839
Brazil Oilseed Production Near 1955 Level.....	866
Japan Oilseed Production and Imports Expected to be Large in 1956.....	869
May U. S. Exports of Cottonseed and Soybean Oils and Oilcakes Still High.....	873
FOREIGN TRADE DEVELOPMENTS	
Angola Trade with United States.....	861
Angola Appropriates Funds for Pilot Irrigation and Agricultural Development in Bengo River Basin.....	862
FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND NUTS	
Canadian Fruit Crop Prospects Lower.....	850
1955 Portuguese Fig Crop Revised Upward.....	851
Jamaica Increases Banana Production.....	851
Iraqi Dates Converted to Stock Feed.....	851
Large Raisin, Small Apricot Forecast for Iran.....	865
Large Turkish Raisin and Fig Crops Forecast.....	872
Bumper Turkish Filbert Crop Forecast.....	872

(Continued on following page)

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CONTENTS

(Continued from Cover page)

## GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, SEEDS AND FEEDS

Argentina Raises Import Prices for 1956-1957 Grain Crops.....	839
France Reported to Have Only Moderate Carry-Over of Field Seeds...	844
Uruguay Lowers 1957 Support Price for Wheat--Encouraging Shift from Wheat to Feed Crops.....	847
Venezuela to Authorize Duty-Free Imports of 6,000 Tons of Sesame Seed.....	862

## LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

Increased Meat Production in New Zealand.....	844
Duty Changes in Packinghouse Products Result from GATT Conference.....	845
Ecuador Will Exhibit Breeding Cattle at its Fair.....	845
Canada's Lard and Tallow Production Increasing.....	846
Australian Wool Receipts Into Store and Disposals for July-April.....	846
Australian Wool Sales.....	848
Importation of Pork Products into British Honduras.....	856

## TOBACCO

Pakistan Plans Tobacco Pests Eradication Program.....	840
India's Tobacco Exports Up.....	841
United States Exports of Unmanufactured Tobacco, April, 1956.....	841
Egypt's Imports of U.S. Leaf Up.....	843
Thailand's Cigarette Output Up.....	843
Cambodian-Chinese Communist Trade Agreement Includes Tobacco.....	843
Mexico's Tobacco Imports Down, Consumption Up.....	844

## TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Italian Hemp Production expected to Improve This Year.....	863
Jute Prices Declined in Calcutta.....	864
Italian Flax Production Continues Downward Trend.....	865
Cocoa Crop Prospects Good in Brazil.....	865

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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# ARGENTINA RAISES SUPPORT PRICES FOR 1956-57 GRAIN AND OILSEED CROPS

Official guaranteed prices to Argentine growers for 1956-57 grain and oilseeds have been raised substantially above the support levels for the two preceeding seasons. Increases over the 1955-56 prices average 11.2 percent for grains, and 17.9 percent for linseed, 5.6 percent for peanuts and 3.8 percent for sunflowerseed.

A more objective view of the new prices can be had by comparing them with support levels prevailing in 1956-55. Since that crop, the guaranteed price of wheat has been increased by 50 percent, corn 77.8 percent, and rye, barley and oats 47.7 percent. Comparable increases for oilseeds are even more pronounced, with flaxseed showing an increase of 120 percent, sunflowerseed 125 percent and peanuts 90 percent.

The prices for last year's (1955-56) crops were announced too late in the season to cause any large increase in the sown areas, except in the case of sunflowerseed. However, there is a belief that the guaranteed prices for the next (1956-57) harvest are likely to stimulate a considerable expansion in crop area, especially for wheat, corn and flaxseed.

## Argentina's Official Support Prices for Specified Crops (Prices delivered at port of Buenos Aires)

Commodity	Pesos per 100 kilos			Dollars per bushel 1/		
	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Wheat (all types).....	50.00	70.00	75.00	2.72	1.18	1.26
Corn.....	45.00	70.00	80.00	2.29	1.10	1.26
White oats.....	39.00	56.50	61.50	1.13	.51	.55
Yellow oats.....	38.00	55.00	60.00	1.10	.49	.54
Rye.....	42.00	50.00	60.00	2.13	.79	.94
Malt Barley.....	43.00	55.00	60.00	1.87	.74	.81
Feed barley.....	39.50	50.50	55.50	1.72	.68	.75
Flaxseed.....	75.00	140.00	165.00	3.81	2.20	2.59
	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	Cents per pound 1/		
Sunflowerseed.....	60.00	130.00	135.00	5.44	3.64	3.78
Peanuts.....	100.00	180.00	190.00	9.07	5.04	5.32

1/ Conversions to U.S. equivalents made on basis of 5 pesos to the dollar for the 1954-55 crop and 16.20 pesos to the dollar for the 1955-56 and 1956-57 crops.



The actual extent to which the acreage sown to Argentine grain and oilseed crops for the 1956-57 harvest may be increased cannot be determined at this early date. Farmers in the various producing areas undoubtedly will be influenced to some extent by their estimates of the relative profits likely to be realised if they sow their lands to crops under price supports, taking into account such factors as production costs, climatic and soil conditions and transportation costs. In that connection it is interesting to note the level of a farmer's computed gross returns in pesos per hectare in 1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57 on the basis of average yields at the officially guaranteed prices. These are shown in the table which follows:

Estimated Gross Returns per Harvested Unit in Argentina for Specified Crops During Stated Years

Commodity	Pesos per hectare <u>1/</u>			Dollars per acre <u>2/</u>		
	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Wheat(all types) :	616.50	863.10	924.75	49.89	21.56	23.10
Corn..... :	725.85	1,129.10	1,290.40	58.74	28.20	32.24
White oats..... :	469.95	680.83	741.08	38.03	17.01	18.51
Yellow oats..... :	457.90	662.75	723.00	37.06	16.56	18.06
Rye..... :	308.28	367.00	440.40	24.95	9.17	11.00
Malt barley..... :	537.50	687.50	750.00	43.50	17.17	18.74
Feed barley..... :	493.75	631.25	693.75	39.96	15.77	17.33
Flaxseed..... :	486.75	908.60	1,070.85	39.39	22.70	26.75
Sunflowerseed... :	441.00	955.50	992.25	35.69	23.87	24.79
Peanuts..... :	962.00	1,731.60	1,827.50	77.85	43.26	45.66

1/ Based on average yields per hectare from official estimates of harvested area and production from 1947-48 through 1955-56 for all crops excepting corn, sunflowerseed and peanuts. For the latter crops the gross returns are based on average yields from 1947-48 through 1954-55.

2/ Conversions to U. S. equivalents made on bases of 5 pesos to the dollar for the 1954-55 crop, and 16.20 pesos to the dollar for the 1955-56 and 1956-57 crops.

#### PAKISTAN PLANS TOBACCO PESTS ERADICATION PROGRAM

The Agricultural Department of West Pakistan intends to launch a vigorous campaign to combat aphids, leaf caterpillars, and cutworms in the main tobacco growing areas of Peshawar, Nowshera, Charsadda, Mardan and Swabi, according to a recent report. Last year an estimated 20 to 30 percent of the tobacco crop was reported to have been damaged by aphids alone.

INDIA'S TOBACCO  
EXPORTS UP

India's exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first ten months (April-January) of the 1955-56 fiscal year totaled 85.3 million pounds, 16.7 million pounds greater than the same period of 1954-55, and larger than in any complete fiscal year since 1951-52. Larger shipments to Communist China accounted for most of the increase. Consignments to the United Kingdom, the principal market, were 1.0 million pounds less than last year. Shipments to other Commonwealth countries were 5.7 million pounds below the corresponding period last year. Shipments to non-Commonwealth countries, on the other hand, increased from 26.0 to 49.5 million pounds. Exports to Communist China increased from 8.1 to 20.9 million pounds, Indonesia from .3 to 9.3 million pounds, Japan 5.9 to 7.7 million pounds, Belgium 1.6 to 2.1 million pounds and Egypt from 2.2 to 2.3 million pounds.

India's new Tobacco Export Promotion Council has sent a delegation to West Asian and African countries to investigate the market prospects for Indian bidis and bidi tobacco. The delegation is expected to visit Egypt, Gold Coast, Nigeria, the Sudan, British East Africa and Aden.

U. S. EXPORTS OF UNMANUFACTURED  
TOBACCO APRIL, 1956

United States exports of unmanufactured tobacco in April 1956 totaled 29.3 million pounds, valued at \$18.9 million. This was a very substantial increase of 58 percent over exports for April 1955, which totaled 18.6 million pounds, valued at \$10.6 million. There were increases in exports of all types in April 1956 with the exception of Burley, Black Fat and Cigar Wrapper. Exports of flue-cured tobacco in April 1956 increased 88 percent over exports for the corresponding month last year. Exports to the United Kingdom (3.4 million pounds) to West Germany (5.2 million pounds) and to Korea (6.1 million pounds) accounted for approximately 64 percent of total flue-cured exports in April. Exports of flue-cured tobacco to Korea were shipped under provisions of an agreement signed under Title I of Public Law 480. Exports of Maryland tobacco increased 81 percent in April 1956 over the same month last year. The largest quantity was shipped to Switzerland, which took approximately 630,000 pounds compared with takings of 291,000 pounds in April, 1955.

Total exports of all types of tobacco at 132.2 million pounds for the first 4 months of 1956 were about 16 percent greater than those for the January-April 1955 period, when exports totaled 114.4 million pounds. Exports of flue-cured tobacco for the January-April 1956 period totaled 102.9 million pounds, an increase of 24 percent over exports of 82.8 million pounds for the corresponding period last year. There were increases in exports for the first four months of 1956 of dark-fired Kentucky-Tennessee, Virginia fire and sun-cured, Maryland and Cigar Wrapper.

United States: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco, April 1956 and January-April 1956, with comparisons (export weight)

Type	April			January-April		
			Percent			Percent
	1955	1956	Change	1955	1956	Change
	1,000 pounds		Percent	1,000 pounds		Percent
Flue-cured.....	12,315	23,148	+ 88.0	82,835	102,902	+24.2
Burley.....	2,588	1,633	- 36.9	12,465	7,727	-38.0
Dark-fired Kentucky-Tennessee:	1,515	1,533	+ 1.2	7,582	9,643	+27.2
Virginia fire-cured 1/.....	143	224	+ 56.6	1,171	1,899	+62.2
Black Fat.....	483	65	- 86.6	1,823	1,128	-38.1
Maryland.....	741	1,342	+ 81.1	2,494	4,544	+82.2
Green River.....	48	164	+241.7	1,483	545	-63.3
Cigar Wrapper.....	415	352	- 15.2	1,225	1,446	+18.0
Other 2/.....	305	813	+166.6	3,306	2,337	-29.3
Total.....	18,553	29,274	+ 57.8	114,384	132,171	+15.6
Declared value (million dollars):	10.6	18.9	+ 78.3	70.2	83.0	+18.2

1/ Includes sun-cured. 2/ Includes one-sucker, cigar binder and filler, Perique and stems, trimmings and scrap. These were classified in a blanket category beginning January 1956.

Compiled in Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

The total value of April exports of tobacco products at \$5.2 million was about 6 percent higher than for April 1955. For the 4 months January-April 1956, cigarette exports were about 7 percent lower than for the same period last year. Exports of smoking tobacco in bulk were also somewhat lower.

United States: Exports of tobacco products, April 1956 and January-April 1956 with comparisons

	April			January-April		
			Percent			Percent
	1955	1956	Change	1955	1956	Change
			Percent			Percent
Cigarettes						
(Million Pieces).....	1,208	1,284	+ 6.3	5,007	4,640	- 7.3
Smoking Tobacco in Bulk						
(1,000 pounds).....	498	302	-39.4	1,994	1,942	- 2.6
Declared value 1/						
(Million Dollars).....	4.9	5.2	+ 6.1	20.6	20.0	- 2.9

1/ Includes value of tobacco manufactures not separately shown.

Compiled in Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.



# EGYPT'S IMPORTS OF UNITED STATES LEAF UP

Egypt's imports of United States leaf continued upward through 1955, totaling a record high of 6.4 million pounds. Takings of United States leaf in 1955 represented about one-fourth of Egypt's total imports and surpassed takings from Turkey, the usual principal source. Demand for American-blended cigarettes is increasing and accounts for 45 percent of the total cigarette output in contrast to 35 percent in 1951.

Purchases of United States leaf during 1956, principally flue-cured, may be affected by the larger availabilities from Communist China. Takings from Communist China have been increasing in recent years. Leaf takings from the Soviet bloc account for about 10 percent of Egypt's total imports since 1953.

Egypt: Imports of leaf tobacco and strips during 1955, with comparisons

Country of origin	1953	1954	1955
	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>
United States.....	4,999	5,774	6,440
Turkey.....	5,949	5,315	5,320
Greece.....	3,081	2,872	2,586
India.....	2,172	2,086	2,205
Southern Rhodesia.....	2/	624	485
Soviet Union.....	881	1,006	2/
Communist China.....	904	1,046	2/
Other.....	5,467	5,759	6,646
Total.....	23,453	24,482	23,682

1/ Excludes imports of tobacc and Hassan Keif. 2/ If any, included in other.

## THAILAND'S CIGARETTE OUTPUT UP

Cigarette output in Thailand in 1955 totaled 7.7 billion pieces as compared with 7.1 billion produced in 1954. Production of cigarettes in 1955 was 83 percent greater than the annual average of 1947-51.

## CAMBODIAN-CHINESE COMMUNIST TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

A new Bilateral Trade Agreement has reportedly been signed between Cambodia and Communist China. The new trade arrangement includes Cambodian tobacco as one of the items to be exported in exchange for Chinese Communist goods. The agreement provides for sales worth 5 million pounds sterling in each direction.

#### MEXICO'S TOBACCO IMPORTS DOWN; CONSUMPTION UP

Mexico's imports of unmanufactured tobacco in 1955 totaled 3.1 million pounds, principally from the United States, but were less than one-half the 1954 record high of 6.4 million pounds. Usings of imported leaf in production of better-quality cigarettes declined substantially during 1955, following the price increases of December 1954. The greatest decline occurred in imports of Burley, which were 3.0 million pounds below the 1954 takings of 4.5 million pounds. Imports of flue-cured were also down slightly. Consumption of unmanufactured tobacco increased about 1.3 million pounds over the 1954 level of 75.8 million pounds. Most of the increase occurred in larger usings of the domestic types.

Output of tobacco products continued upward through 1955. Cigarette output totaled 34.3 billion pieces as compared with 30.7 billion in 1954. Output of cigars and the other products increased 10 and 20 percent, respectively, over the 1954 levels.

#### FRANCE REPORTED TO HAVE ONLY MODERATE CARRY-OVER OF FIELD SEEDS

A report from France indicates that the carry-over of field seeds is quite modest with the exception of red clover, the stocks of which are believed to be in substantial volume.

Prospects for 1956 seed harvests range from very poor for crimson clover to very good for alfalfa. The crimson clover fields were seriously injured by the severe winter and no exports are anticipated. Damage may have been so severe that imports may be needed to meet domestic requirements. No reports are available for Birdsfoot trefoil.

Barring unfavorable weather a normal crop of alfalfa seed and a moderate production of red clover are expected. The ryegrass seed crop is likely to be below normal. Winter vetch is reported to be very short with a probable need for imports.

Flower and vegetable seed prospects show the same wide range. Most biennials and perennials suffered winter injury. Some of the annuals have suffered from the cold, dry, and late spring, but favorable growing conditions may still produce normal seed crops.

#### INCREASED MEAT PRODUCTION IN NEW ZEALAND

As a result of large production of meat during the current production season, the exports increased by 6.3 percent over the previous season. The total output of beef and veal increased by 21.7 percent over the previous year, and mutton and lamb increased 16.5 and 3.4 percent respectively.

DUTY CHANGES IN PACKINGHOUSE  
PRODUCTS RESULT FROM  
GATT CONFERENCE

United States exporters of meat products will benefit from tariff reductions in foreign countries as a result of the fourth round of tariff negotiations under the General Agreement on tariff and Trade (GATT), which opened at Geneva on January 18, 1956.

As a result of the conference, United States tariff duties on a few Packinghouse products will also be lowered. The tariff concessions made by the United States become effective June 30, 1956. Most of the tariff changes by other countries will have been made by that date.

The German import duty on refined lard not remelted in Germany under customs bond will be reduced from the present temporary duty of 20 percent ad valorem to 18 percent. The present autonomous (i.e., not applied) duty on such lard is 22 percent ad valorem.

Imports of frozen beef and veal tongues and frozen pork tongues and kidneys by Belgium-Luxembourg will be subject to a 10 percent ad valorem rate whereas a 12 percent rate applies at present. The 12 percent duty on salted horsemeat and on classification of canned meats of 30 percent were bound at present levels.

Duties on imports by the Bahamas will be reduced 2 and 4 cents per 100 pounds on bacon and hams, salted and pickled beef and pork and some other cured meats.

Chile's duty on one classification of inedible tallow and grease applicable for U. S. imports was reduced from 4.2 cents per pound to 3.7 cents per pound.

There were a number of other duty changes of less significance to United States exporters (See Tariff Concessions on Agricultural Products Negotiated at Fourth Round of GATT Tariff Negotiations in Geneva, Foreign Agricultural Service, June 1956.)

United States import duties will be reduced about 5 percent effective June 30, 1956 for fresh, chilled and frozen variety meats, edible gelatin, dried blood albumen, and curled animal hair. Further reductions in the import duties on these items will become effective over a 3 year period.

ECUADOR WILL EXHIBIT  
BREEDING CATTLE AT ITS FAIR

The Guayaquil Fair, the second largest in the country, will be held October 7-21, 1956. Large numbers of breeding cattle will be exhibited at the fair, principally Brown Swiss, Jerseys, Guernseys and also Short-horn, Herefords, and Brahamans. A competent judge has been requested from ICA to supervise the judging and the selection of the best animals.



#### CANADA'S LARD AND TALLOW PRODUCTION INCREASING

Canadian lard production at the end of May 1956 was about 10 percent above last year. Total 1955 production was 153 million pounds. Production under Federal inspection is averaging over 9 million pounds per month, compared with slightly over 8 million pounds a year ago.

Consumption of lard was not keeping pace with increased production during the first 4 months of 1956 with stocks of lard on May 1 amounting to 9.2 million pounds as compared with 6.1 million for the same date in 1955. The consumption of lard in 1955 equaled 10 pounds per capita and it is believed this rate will be maintained this year. The increased rate of lard utilized in Canadian manufacture of shortening and margarine is continuing in 1956.

Canada has been a net importer of lard during the past 3 years. This year with the increased production it is doubtful if imports will be as large as last year's 6.2 million pounds. Imports of lard in 1954 and 1953, respectively, were 2.8 million and 6.8 million pounds.

Production of edible and inedible tallow in 1955 is estimated at 155 million pounds. In the first quarter of 1956, production under Federal inspection was up 17 percent from January-March 1955.

Consumption of edible tallow in the manufacture of shortening continued its upward trend, amounting to 6.1 million pounds for the first quarter of 1956, compared with 4.7 million for the same months last year. Stocks of edible tallow on May 1, 1956 totaled 5.5 million pounds.

Canada has been increasing its exports of tallow during recent years. Total exports in 1955 were approximately 40 million pounds, as compared with 28 million in 1954 and 25 million pounds in 1953. The Union of South Africa was by far the largest export market in 1955, followed by Japan and Thailand.

#### AUSTRALIAN WOOL RECEIPTS INTO STORE AND DISPOSALS JULY-APRIL

Australian wool receipts into store during the 10-months ending April 30 totaled 3,945,763 bales (including 56,523 bales carry-over from the previous season). The 1955-56 wool clip was estimated at 4,219,000 bales, or 1,414 million pounds, greasy basis. Thus 329,760 bales or approximately 100 million pounds, greasy basis, of the estimated clip had not been received into store as of April 30.

Exports of wool from Australia during the 10-months ending April 30 were equivalent to 1,013 million pounds, greasy basis. Domestic use will approximate 100 million pounds annually. Thus, as of April 30 about 300 million pounds (including unshorn wool) remained to be shipped from the 1955/56 clip.



URUGUAY LOWERS 1957 SUPPORT PRICE FOR WHEAT -  
ENCOURAGING SHIFT FROM WHEAT TO FEED CROPS

The Uruguayan Government has fixed the base price to be paid producers for the 1956-57 wheat crop, to be harvested next November-January, at 13 pesos per 100 kilograms (\$2.33 per bushel). This price compares with 14 pesos per kilogram (\$2.51 per bushel) being paid for the 1955-56 crop. At the same time, action has been taken to modify planting subsidies in order to encourage a reduction in the area sown to wheat.

The indicated base price for next season's crop is the price that will be paid for delivery of clean, dry wheat of good average quality to Montevideo during the month of December, 1956. These payments are subject to bonuses or discounts to be established according to condition of grain. To cover storage costs this guaranteed price will be increased by specified amounts monthly until October, 1957.

Under the Uruguayan price system for wheat, the Bank of the Republic is authorized to pay the guaranteed price for all of the wheat offered by producers. The Bank, then sells as much of this wheat to flour millers as may be required for domestic bread consumption. The Uruguayan baker is subsidized in order to prevent bread prices from exceeding fixed levels. The Bank sells the balance of its wheat supplies to exporters at prices in line with world market prices.

Uruguay is one of the few countries in the world taking concrete steps to reduce wheat acreage. The objective is to encourage a shift from wheat to feed crops in line with the country's stepped-up livestock program. Planting subsidies to encourage a reduction in wheat acreage were first inaugurated in 1955-56. At that time a subsidy of 18.00 pesos per hectare (\$4.80 per acre) of sown area was granted producers who seeded not more than 150 hectares (371 acres) of wheat and whose total farm area did not exceed 500 hectares (1,236 acres). The subsidy was not paid to farmers who did not produce wheat in the preceeding (1954-55) season.

The new regulations grant subsidy payments to growers under two categories. Under Category A, payments of 28 pesos per hectare (\$7.46 per acre) are authorized for producers planting 50 hectares (124 acres) or less of wheat and farming a maximum of 200 hectares (494 acres). Under Category B, payments of 10 pesos per hectare (\$2.66 per acre) are authorized for a planted area of 50 to 150 hectares (124 to 371 acres) of wheat and farming a maximum of 200 to 350 hectares (494 to 864 acres). Total land in each case includes grass as well as cultivated land. Growers claiming subsidies must file petitions with the Serviceo Agronomico in their area prior to August 15, 1956. They must also insure all areas, so registered, with the Banco di Seguros in order to qualify for payment.

The Government's policy, initiated in 1955, is directed to increasing wheat yields and reducing unit costs in order to eliminate costly consumer and export subsidies and at the same time improve the competitive position of Uruguayan wheat in world markets. The new law states that any saving made by lowering the cost of wheat exports will be used to provide technical assistance to small and medium wheat producers. Plans call for an expansion in the government subsidy to producers to enable them to purchase fertilizers at about 30 percent of the list price.

Uruguay's harvested wheat area increased from 1.2 million acres in 1950-51 to a peak of 1.91 million acres in 1954-55. In the same period, production increased from 435,000 to 853,600 metric tons (16 to 31 million bushels). As a result, Uruguayan exports of wheat and flour increased from 90,000 metric tons (3.3 million bushels grain equivalent) in 1951 to 496,800 metric tons (18.3 million bushels) in 1955.

The area harvested in 1955-56 is estimated at 1.9 million acres, a slight reduction from that of 1954-55. Carry-in stocks on January 1, 1956 were placed at 130,400 tons (4.8 million bushels) and production at 825,000 metric tons (30.3 million bushels). Domestic utilization is estimated at 400,400 metric tons (14.7 million bushels). The country's wheat exports during 1956 are expected to amount to about 475,000 metric tons (17.4 million bushels).

Under a 3-year bilateral barter agreement negotiated in 1953, Brazil has provided a market for a large proportion of Uruguay's expanded wheat surplus. During 1954, Uruguay exported 243,200 tons (8.9 million bushels) of wheat and flour in grain equivalent to that market. This was increased to 271,600 tons (10.0 million bushels) in 1955 and to 320,000 tons (estimated) in 1956. The balance of Uruguay's exports move to the neighboring South American countries of Peru and Paraguay, and to European markets, especially the United Kingdom, Belgium, Denmark and West Germany.

#### AUSTRALIAN WOOL SALES

Australian wool sales were held during the week ending June 1, 1956 in Sydney and Adelaide with sales totaling 43,470 bales and 47,735 bales, respectively. Price advances were recorded for 60's to 70's qualities. The Newcastle sale scheduled for the week of June 5-8 was cancelled because of labor difficulties in the shearing and wool handling unions.

Price advances in Australian auctions which have occurred during the past 4 months may be partly attributed to the prolonged labor dispute over shearing wage rates. On the season's closing date of June 30 appreciable quantities of wool will remain unshorn and even larger amounts reportedly will be in bales at country points. Presumably, some of this wool will be scheduled for sale in July and shipment later. Even though some of the potential clip for the current season may not be delivered into store and calculated as "produced," it appears likely that the total availability, (including unshorn wool) will be at least equivalent to the estimated 1955/56 clip of 1,414 million pounds, greasy basis.

### AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis, on Australian auction floors, by quality classification.  
(Current prices with comparisons)

Type and Grade	Week Ended		
	5-25-56	6-1-56	Year ago 6-3-55
- - - - - U. S. DOLLARS PER POUND - - - - -			
<u>Combing Wools</u>			
70's Good	1.45	1.46	1.45
Average	1.38	1.40	1.39
64's Good	1.32	1.33	1.31
Average	1.28	1.29	1.28
60's Good	1.17	1.18	1.20
Average	1.12	1.14	1.17
58's Good	1.04	1.04	1.13
Average	1.01	1.01	--
56's Good	.91	.91	1.04
Average	.89	.89	--
50's Good	.81	.81	.91
Average	.79	.79	--
<u>Carding Wools</u>			
Merino	.86	.86	.81
Comeback	.77	.77	.75
Fine Crossbred	.73	.73	.74
Medium Crossbred	.71	.73	.74

Source: Statistical Service of the Australian Wool Bureau.



# CANADIAN FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS LOWER

The general outlook for Canadian fruit crops at the end of May was for a production well below that of last year. The season in Ontario and Quebec and the Maritime Provinces was from 2 to 3 weeks later than usual with frost damages reported in some areas of Ontario and Quebec. In British Columbia, one of the principal fruit-producing areas of Canada, the 1956 outlook was for a substantial reduction of all tree fruits except pears, and a sharp reduction of strawberries and raspberries.

Apples.--Early forecasts indicate that Canadian apple production this year will be smaller than the very large 1955 crop of 19.5 million bushels. In Nova Scotia the apple orchards survived the winter in good condition and the late spring prevented serious frost damage. Growers forecast a crop of 25 to 35 percent below the large 1955 crop. In Quebec, the main apple-growing districts experienced a severe frost on May 23 and 24, and the crop is expected to be about 30 percent below that of last year. In Ontario, the crop is late and is expected to be about 30 percent below the 1955 crop. In British Columbia, the severe winter weather killed all young trees up to 10 years of age and there was a large amount of bud and spur injury on the older trees. The loss of old trees is not expected to be more than 2 or 3 percent. Late varieties such as Newton were severely injured.

Peaches.--Total peach production is expected to be less than the 1955 harvest. In British Columbia, peaches were severely injured and the outlook is for below average production. In Ontario, the late spring delayed blossoming with some frost damage reported in the Niagara area.

Grapes.--Frost damage the night of May 16 injured the crop in the Niagara belt. However, no serious damage has been reported from other producing areas.

Strawberries.--Total production is expected to be smaller than that of 1955. In British Columbia, where about one-third of the Canadian crop is grown, the winter damage to plants was very heavy and the crop is expected to be about 20 percent of normal. In the Maritime provinces and Quebec, strawberry plants came through the winter in excellent condition, but the crop is 2 to 3 weeks late.

Raspberries.--Production is expected to be substantially smaller than in 1955. In British Columbia, where about 70 percent of the total Canadian crop is grown, production is expected to be about 20 percent of the 1955 crop. The losses are due to severe winter kill of the canes.

## PROSPECTS GOOD FOR TURKISH FILBERTS, FIGS AND RAISINS

In the absence of unfavorable weather, development of crops in the Coastal areas has reportedly been normal and prospects for filberts, figs, and raisins continue to be good to very good. See complete reports page 872.



## 1955 PORTUGUESE FIG CROP REVISED UPWARD

The 1955 Portuguese dried fig crop is now estimated at 11,000 short tons. The previous estimate was 9,800 tons. Average production (1948-52) is 10,700 tons.

A much higher proportion of the Portuguese crop is being exported this season than is usually the case. Whereas exports in the previous 4 seasons accounted for only 20 to 40 percent of production, in the 1955-56 season over 60 percent of the crop will have been exported.

Estimated domestic consumption of dried figs in Portugal ranged between 5,800 and 6,200 tons for the previous 4 seasons. However, it is estimated that consumption will not exceed 4,100 tons in 1955-56. At the same time exports in 1955-56 may attain an unprecedentedly high level of approximately 7,000 tons. Exports to the United States of dried figs and fig paste may total over 3,500 tons for the 1955-56 season. In 1954-55, according to United States import statistics, 1,060 tons of dried figs and paste were imported from Portugal, and in 1953-54 and 1952-53 only 684 and 61 tons, respectively.

JAMAICA INCREASES  
BANANA PRODUCTION

Banana exports from Jamaica for the first 5 months of this year reached 4.1 million stems, compared to 3.9 million during the same period of 1954. Total exports in 1956 are expected to exceed 10.9 million in 1955. The production trend is expected to continue upward because of the continued diversion of estate land from sugar to bananas and because of more extensive spraying and fertilizer program. Jamaica is aiming at a target of 20 million stems, which compared with prewar exports of 27 million stems. The Banana Board is making experimental shipments by air freight of ripe Lacatan bananas to Miami. It is doubtful if this will become a major market outlet.

IRAQI DATES CONVERTED  
TO STOCK FEED

The West German Government has approved an experimental purchase of about 5,000 tons of low-quality dates for use as livestock feed. The dates, including the stones, are to be used in the feed. In the future, the volume of dates used for livestock feed will depend to a large extent on the price of the dates, freight, and transportation problems. It is possible that 150,000 tons of dates could be utilized in stock feed in Western European countries if prices are competitive. This may provide an outlet for the large volume of low-quality dates that have been carried over in recent years.

#### MEXICAN DAIRY SITUATION IN 1955

Mexico's milk shortage continued to be acute in 1955, despite a rise in production of 7 percent over 1954. Most of the increase was consumed as fluid milk with a very small increase in the supplies to manufacturers of dairy products.

Butter production was down almost 20 percent and cheese over 3 percent. This was accounted for by the extreme difficulty in obtaining supplies for manufacturing. The larger manufacturers of these dairy products are located in or near the large cities, where most of the milk is channeled to fluid use.

An increase of 10 percent was reported in the output of canned milk. Dried milk production was slightly above 1954, while ice cream production was up about 25 percent.

The weather in January was extremely cold, resulting in a heavy loss of forage. Many cows have dropped in yield because of weather and feed conditions. Some herds are being increased by the addition of imported dairy animals or improved domestic animals. While it is believed that this will increase cow-milk production by about 10 percent, it is also believed that the milk shortage will continue to be critical during 1956 unless imports are increased.

#### FLUID MILK PRICES RISE IN ARGENTINA

In spite of pressure to the contrary, the Argentine Government has raised fluid milk prices on the Buenos Aires market. The last price increase occurred May 1, 1955, and was a flat 0.53 cent per quart increase to the producer, wholesaler, and retailer for both raw and pasteurized milk. The present price increases are of varying amounts at the different marketing channels.

The Buenos Aires milkshed producers had asked for \$2.94 per cwt, which represents an increase of \$1.37 over the January 1956 price. The increase granted by the Government, however, fell short of this request, and the producer price is now \$2.20 per cwt.

Raw milk delivered to consumers rose from 4.5 cents per quart to 7.1 cents per quart. The largest increases occurred in bottled pasteurized milk prices. The retail price in the stores for this type of milk rose from 6.05 cents per quart to 8.68 cents per quart. Delivered to homes, pasteurized milk now sells for 8.94 cents per quart, an increase of 2.37 cents per quart.

## DAIRY PRICE SYSTEM IN IRELAND, 1955

For milk delivered to Dublin dairies during the May to August period Irish producers received \$2.49 per cwt; for milk delivered during the September to April period, the price was \$3.59 per cwt. Retail prices during the same periods are 9.7 cents per quart and 11.7 cents per quart, respectively. Both the producer and retail prices are under Government control.

In addition, the Government also controls wholesale and retail prices of butter. Bulk butter in long ton lots has a maximum price of 47.8 cents per pound and in less than long ton lots, 48.6 cents per pound. In August 1954, the Government reduced the retail price of butter from 58.3 to 52.5 cents per pound. An amount equal to this reduction (5.8 cents per pound) is paid by the Government to creameries and wholesalers. The Government also pays creameries 0.37-cents-per-pound subsidy. The Government's subsidizing of the wholesale price allows creameries to pay farmers an average price of \$2.04 per cwt. over the year.

There is no fixed export price of butter. The Butter Marketing Committee sells any exportable surplus, and during the year sold 1.8 million pounds at an average price of 49.9 cents per pound.

There is no controlled retail price for cheese. During 1955 the average price was about 40.8 cents per pound.

SPANISH DAIRY PRODUCTION  
DOWN IN 1955

Milk production in Spain in 1955 dropped below the 1954 level. Severe drought throughout the country during the spring and summer of 1955 greatly reduced pastures and resulted in higher feed costs and heavy slaughtering of livestock, including some milk animals. Butter production at 10 million pounds was about 3 million pounds below 1954 output. Production of cheese in 1955 amounted to 77 million pounds, compared with 80 million pounds in the earlier year. Approximately 75 percent of Spain's cheese is made from sheep's milk. Imports were 1,143,000 pounds (1,080,000 pounds in 1954) more than 90 percent of which came from the Netherlands. Exports, which went mostly to Tangiers, were 9,000 pounds in 1955. (No cheese was exported during 1954).

The outlook for grain and pasture in 1956 is good. Excellent moisture conditions throughout the late winter and spring are expected to more than offset the freezes that occurred in February. If the present favorable weather continues, pasturage and feeds will be available in the important dairy regions.



#### U. S. BUTTER TESTED BY BELGIUM

Belgian officials have completed the testing of American butter, purchase of which was announced in Foreign Crops and Markets on December 5, 1955. While Belgium has a preferential trade agreement with the Netherlands, which supplies most of the Belgian butter imports, it is possible for Belgium to secure butter from other sources for blending with domestic butter. Belgian officials ordered 2 tons of United States butter for testing purposes.

In general, the taste and smell of American butter was found to be very good and was considered a good mixing butter. However, the butter was found to sweat, when introduced into salted mixtures. The texture of the butter was given a high grade and the water distribution was perfect, but grading officials of the National Office du Lait et de ses Derives stated the "paste" was short.

Factory production of butter in Belgium in 1955 was 1 percent higher than the 1954 output (See Foreign Crops and Markets, April 30, 1956). Stocks at the end of December 1955 at almost 10 million pounds were more than 2.5 times greater than stocks on hand in 1954. Belgian officials increased imports in 1955 by 3 million pounds to 20.7 million pounds. Much of the imported stocks were purchased during the latter part of the year, when dry weather conditions prevailing during the late summer and early fall indicated a shortfall on milk production and dairy products manufactures. However, favorable weather during the last 3 months of the year improved Belgian milk production considerably, and higher than normal yields were obtained. With the improved production situation carrying over into 1956, it is not yet possible to determine import requirements. American butter will be considered, Belgian officials state, if and when imports are needed.

#### QUALITY PAYMENT FOR FLUID MILK EXPANDED IN SWITZERLAND

Fluid milk sold by Swiss producers directly to consumers has been brought under the quality payment ruling by the Federal Council. On May 1, 1955, the quality payment ruling was made obligatory for all milk delivered to collecting stations, (see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 13, 1955). Since May 1, 1956, the only fluid milk sales which escape the quality control payment system are those producer-to-consumer sales of less than 10 liters (22.7 pounds) per day and the producer-to-consumer sales during the summer, when the cows are grazing at the high altitude pastures.



EFFORTS MADE TO REDUCE CHEESE  
AND BUTTER STOCKS IN ITALY

Although no official figures are available, the trend of decreasing prices for butter and cheese in Italy indicates increasing stocks for these dairy products. Grana cheese, the most troublesome, brought 65.3 cents per pound on the Milan wholesale market in 1952 but has experienced a price decline in recent years to the 24.6 cents per pound it was bringing on the same market in December, 1955.

The Government has partially answered dairymen's demands for a floor price by setting up a pooling arrangement for 15.4 million pounds of grana cheese and unspecified amounts of gorgonzola and provolone cheese, and butter produced during the 1955 season. The Government has set aside \$400,000 for the pooling arrangement which will be handled by the Italian Federation of Farmers' Cooperatives (Federconsorsi). Under the arrangements, Federconsorsi will buy from the farmers' cheese and butter cooperatives, butter and cheese at approximately 70 percent of the price expected to be realized. After sales are made the Federconsorsi retains an amount equal to the advance payment to the farmers plus the cost of storage and sale. The remainder is then pro-rated among the dairymen on the basis of their participation.

Although the operation will transfer some stocks from small holders to larger warehouses and partially satisfy dairymen's demands, the overall effect will probably not reduce the stocks. The manufacture of butter and cheese serves as a means of storing surplus production and as long as fluid milk consumption continues to be small, (110 pounds per person in 1954) there appears to be no immediate solution to Italy's surplus milk supply.

BUTTER INFORMATION COUNCIL STEPS UP  
ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

The recent fall in butter prices on the British market, resulting from the largest stocks on the British market since the end of the war, has caused the Butter Information Council to act. The Council, formed by Australia, Denmark, and New Zealand, has launched a new 4-month advertising campaign, which began in May. The campaign, conducted by an advertising firm which also handles the publicity for the New Zealand Cheese Council, will cost \$224,000. To finance this campaign, the participating countries will raise the levy on butter destined to Britain from 28 cents to 98 cents per long ton.

#### IMPORTATION OF PORK PRODUCTS INTO BRITISH HONDURAS

On May 15, 1956, the Government of British Honduras published a notice which specifically allows the importation of hog products from the United States on the basis of a permit to be granted by the Honduras Department of Agriculture. This notice cancels the restrictions of the Import Control Office of November 21, 1953. These stipulated that no licenses for the importation of hog products from the United States be granted unless, in addition to all other required certificates, a certificate from a Federal or State veterinary officer be submitted showing that the hogs came from an area free from vesicular exanthema.

#### U. S. AUTHORIZES EXPORTS OF COTTON AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

The Agricultural Act of 1956, Public Law 540, 84th Congress, approved May 28, 1956, provides for the sale of all qualities of cotton from Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) stocks for export after August 1, 1956, at competitive world prices.

Under terms of Title II-Surplus Disposal, Section 203-The Export Sales Program for Cotton, the Commodity Credit Corporation is directed to use its existing powers and authorities to encourage the export of cotton by offering to make it available..

"..at prices not in excess of the level of prices at which cottons of comparable qualities are being offered in substantial quantity by other exporting countries and, in any event, for the cotton marketing year beginning August 1, 1956, at prices not in excess of the minimum prices (plus carrying charges, beginning October 1, 1956, as established pursuant to Section 407 of the Agricultural Act of 1949) at which cottons of comparable qualities were sold under the export program announced by the United States Department of Agriculture on August 12, 1955. The Commodity Credit Corporation may accept bids in excess of the maximum prices specified herein but shall not reject bids at such maximum prices unless a higher bid is received for the same cotton. .."

The first bids under this program were accepted June 12, 1956, (for export after August 1, 1956). The minimum prices at which bids were accepted are usually announced about a week after the bids are opened.

ITALY MODIFIES IMPORT  
TAXES ON U. S. COTTON

The Government of Italy has revised its system of evaluating cotton imports for levying ad valorem customs duties and taxes, resulting in lower rates for imports of United States cotton. The new rate will amount to about \$15.00 per bale (500 pounds gross) or a reduction of about \$3.50 on each bale of United States cotton imported.

The new system relates the valuation of cotton for tax purposes to New York quotations, and the tax will therefore fluctuate according to changes in the price of cotton. It will also eliminate much of the discriminatory difference between taxes on imports of Upland cotton from the United States and those on imports from other countries. This difference now is only about 32 points per pound.

Italy is one of the few countries which tax imports of raw cotton. The overall tax amounts to about 10 percent of assessed value, and includes a 6 percent ad valorem duty, 3 percent sales tax, and 1 percent for other taxes. The tax is assessed on arbitrary values according to the area where the cotton was produced.

Under the new system, which will be effective from May 21, 1956 through December 1956 unless further extended, the revised evaluations and approximate taxes as of June 1, 1956, were as follows:

Group 1. Cotton from the United States, Mexico, and Peru:

Weekly average value of Middling 15/16 inch, c.i.f. Italian ports (based on New York quotations), with a 20 percent reduction; tax equivalent to 3.13 cents a pound.

Group 2. European growths, other American growths, and Asiatic growths (India and Burma excluded):

Value assessed as in Group 1, further reduced by 10 percent; tax 2.81 cents a pound.

Group 3. India and Burma:

Value assessed as in Group 1, further reduced by 35 percent; tax 2.03 cents a pound.

Group 4. Long staple Egyptian cotton (Karnak):

Previous system unchanged; tax 8.15 cents a pound.

Group 5. Other Egyptian cotton and similar, other African growths:

Previous system unchanged, tax 6.77 cents a pound.



Under Italy's previous system for cotton evaluation, taxes effective just prior to the change were as follows: for Group 1, all American cotton, United States, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, etc: tax equivalent to 3.86 cents a pound; Group 2, Karnak cotton from Egypt: tax 8.15 cents a pound; Group 3, other varieties from Egypt and other sections of Africa: tax 6.77 cents a pound; Group 4, cotton from India, Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Turkey, and U.S.S.R.: tax 2.84 cents a pound.

#### INDIA RESUMES COTTON FUTURES TRADING

Resumption of cotton futures trading in India on June 18, 1956, has been announced by the Board of the East India Cotton Association (EICA). Two contracts will be operated simultaneously instead of the one contract in effect before trading was suspended December 23, 1955.

The first contract will be machine-ginned Jarilla, Fine, staple 25/32 inch; the second, machine-ginned Vijay, Fine, staple 27/32 inch.

#### U. S. COTTON EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

Exports of United States cotton increased considerably in March and April 1956, apparently as the result of the special million-bale export sale of cotton of 15/16 inch and shorter staple in January and February, (Foreign Crops and Markets, June 18, 1956). Total exports of 1,571,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during August-April 1955-56, however, were 47 percent less than exports of 2,990,000 bales a year earlier.

Exports by country of destination indicate even sharper losses in the cotton markets of the major European importers and Canada. Among the major importing countries, only in Japan, Taiwan and Spain were this year's totals comparable in volume with those of last year.

Exports to Western Germany were down 82 percent; those to the United Kingdom 76 percent, Italy 62 percent, France 59 percent, and Canada 77 percent. Other declines included: the Netherlands 94 percent, Denmark 89 percent, Sweden 85 percent, and Belgium 83 percent. Quantities exported to the various countries are shown in the table on the following page.



UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination,  
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1953 and 1954;  
August-April 1954-55 and 1955-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1				August-April	
	Average		1953	1954		
	1935-39	1945-49			1954-55	1955-56
	1,000 bales					
Austria.....	0	1/ 36	42	15	14	12
Belgium.....	169	131	68	66	65	11
Czechoslovakia.....	65	57	0	0	0	0
Denmark.....	33	14	23	21	19	2
Finland.....	35	21	10	13	4	15
France.....	662	575	475	416	355	146
Germany, West.....	511	340	389	350	326	58
Italy.....	442	489	269	249	194	74
Netherlands.....	107	131	104	95	90	5
Norway.....	17	7	14	12	11	2/
Poland and Danzig.....	180	69	0	0	0	0
Portugal.....	36	2/	0	11	2/	2
Spain.....	108	69	167	197	102	103
Sweden.....	115	12	43	51	48	7
Switzerland.....	11	26	24	37	36	13
United Kingdom.....	1,346	488	422	421	385	91
Yugoslavia.....	17	47	40	103	86	42
Other Europe.....	31	3/ 33	10	9	9	3
Total Europe.....	3,885	2,545	2,100	2,066	1,744	584
Canada.....	301	275	237	307	253	57
Chile.....	9	20	27	10	10	14
Colombia.....	20	24	7	2	1	19
Cuba.....	11	16	20	19	18	9
India.....	52	86	161	61	59	6
China.....	117	401	0	0	0	0
French Indochina.....	22	6	16	0	0	0
Indonesia.....	2/	5	22	27	23	10
Japan.....	1,142	585	1,005	678	583	585
Korea, Republic of.....	4/ 5/	48	96	170	114	76
Taiwan (Formosa).....	4/	1	110	120	88	105
Australia.....	9	7	45	52	41	20
Other countries.....	21	46	6/ 68	7/ 73	56	86
Total 500-lb. bales..	5,589	4,065	3,914	3,585	2,990	1,571
Total running bales..	5,300	3,917	3,761	3,447	2,876	1,498

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Greece 21.

4/ If any, included in other countries. 5/ 3-year average. 6/ Israel

12, Ethiopia 11. 7/ Israel 20, French Morocco 11.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

COTTON: Share of United States and other supplying countries in specified import markets, portions of 1954-55 and 1955-56 marketing years as shown.

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Importing country	Reporting period	Supplying country	Quantity imported:		Supplying countries share of market	
			1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
			period	period	period	period
			1,000 bales	1,000 bales	Percent	Percent
Belgium.....	Aug.-Jan.	United States	53	15	20	8
		Mexico	55	51	21	26
		Belgian Congo	43	36	17	18
		Total 1/	259	197		
France.....	Aug.-Apr.	United States	361	118	35	13
		French Colonies:	146	141	14	15
		Syria	124	169	12	18
		Total 1/	1035	922		
Germany, West.....	Aug.-Feb.	United States	249	48	34	7
		Mexico	106	263	14	36
		Egypt	53	59	7	8
		Total 1/	739	722		
Italy.....	Aug.-Dec.	United States	97	48	41	22
		Brazil	39	29	16	13
		Total 1/	237	221		
Netherlands.....	Aug.-Jan.	United States	44	3	26	2
		Mexico	62	85	37	54
		Total 1/	167	158		
Spain.....	Aug.-Apr.	United States	111	94	54	74
		Brazil	53	24	26	19
		Total 1/	207	127		
Switzerland.....	Aug.-Apr.	United States	49	12	33	9
		Egypt	31	46	21	33
		Total 1/	147	138		
United Kingdom.....	Aug.-Mar.	United States	419	162	40	17
		Sudan	78	146	7	16
		Total 1/	1058	936		
Canada.....	Aug.-Mar.	United States	231	67	96	24
		Mexico	4	196	2	71
		Total 1/	241	278		
Hong Kong.....	Aug.-Apr.	United States	9	1	5	1
		India	1	44	1	27
		Pakistan	51	42	30	25
		Total 1/	172	165		
India.....	Aug.-Dec.	United States	33	2	22	1
		Br. E. Africa	62	48	42	31
		Egypt	42	62	28	40
		Total 1/	148	155		
Japan.....	Aug.-Mar.	United States	514	351	38	25
		Mexico	352	330	26	24
		Total 1/	1347	1380		

1/ Includes imports from sources not listed

#### U. S. SHARE OF FOREIGN COTTON MARKETS REDUCED

The United States share of the cotton markets in eleven out of twelve of the major cotton importing countries, as shown in the table of the opposite page, continued at the sharply reduced levels evident thus far in the 1955-56 marketing year. An increased share of Spain's imports was the only exception among the countries shown. The periods covered for the various countries differ according to the availability of their import data.

#### BRAZIL LIMITING EXPORTS OF HIGHER GRADE COTTONS BY PRICE INCREASES

The Foreign Trade Department (CACEX) of the Bank of Brazil is restricting exports of medium and higher grades of cotton by fixing dollar prices in excess of international market prices in order to assure the supply of such cotton to domestic textile producers.

Exports of lower grades of cotton are being authorized at various exchange rates according to destination, with the aim of moving the cotton toward stronger currency areas.

Brazil recently suspended exports of cotton for about 3 weeks, May 21 to June 8, 1956, because of heavy export sales and some uncertainty as to the size of the new crop. Latest estimates for the 1955-56 crop are for production of 1,700,000 bales (500 pounds gross) as compared with a crop of 1,650,000 bales in 1954-55. The 1955-56 figure includes 1,150,000 bales for South Brazil and 550,000 for North Brazil. Earlier estimates for the 1955-56 crop, however, had been for a much higher figure.

#### ANGOLA TRADE WITH UNITED STATES

In 1955 the United States was Angola's best customer, taking 23 percent in value of its total exports, compared with 22 percent exported to Portugal. During 1955 the United States furnished about 14 percent of the value of Angola's imports, which was a reduction compared with previous seasons, because of a recent, tightening of trade controls. Most of Angola's imports from the United States consisted of industrial goods and equipment. The United States bought 41 percent of Angola's exports of Robusta coffee, or 24,782 metric tone. Portugal received the bulk of Angola's exports of palm oil and vegetable oil seeds, corn, cotton, sugar, and was one of the major buyers of sisal.



ANGOLA APPROPRIATES FUNDS  
FOR PILOT IRRIGATION AND AGRICULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT IN BENGU RIVER BASIN

The Angolan Development Fund has recently announced the appropriation of about \$280,000 for establishment of a pilot farm in the Bengo River basin in northern Angola near the Luanda capital. This pilot project will include controlled agricultural experiments in both irrigated and dry farming, the drainage and preparation of land, supply of machines and equipment and erection of necessary buildings. Work will be done on corn, sugar cane, beans, cotton, and other crops for domestic use and export. This work is the result of a long term survey of power, irrigation and other resources in the Congo Province by the Hydrotechnic Corporation of New York. The long term plans include development of large scale hydro-electric development, industrial development, irrigated and dry land farming and the settlement of farmers from Portugal over a long period of years.

VENEZUELA TO AUTHORIZE DUTY-FREE  
IMPORTS OF 6,000 TONS SESAME SEED

Duty-free importation of about 6,000 short tons of sesame seed will be authorized during the current crop year, according to an announcement by the Venezuelan Ministry of Development.

This announcement was made at about the same time as this year's official sesame crop estimate was reduced to 10,500 tons, or less than one-half of the February estimate of 22,000 tons. Annual requirements are officially stated to be 27,500 tons, though crushers claim that consumption amounts to only 19,000 tons. Sesame oil and coconut oil are the principal food oils consumed in Venezuela.

As a rule, duty-free imports are permitted only if and when the local supply of sesame seed and copra has been bought up by crushers. The minimum price paid to growers for sesame seed is about 40 percent above the European landed price of British West Indies seed. The floor price for copra is currently about 50 percent above the world price.

In January, when a bumper crop of sesame seed was expected, the official retail price of sesame oil was raised to Bs. 17.50 per can of 4.5 liters (59 cents per pound), an increase of Bs. 2.20 per can (7 cents per pound). As a result of the high domestic price of seed, the average price of oil rises as the proportion of domestic oil in the total supply increases.

Farmers were informed at the February harvest that the minimum price for sesame seed had been dropped from Bs. 1,200 per metric ton (\$327 per short ton) to Bs. 1,100 (\$299). While this signifies an approximate decline of \$12 per acre in returns to farmers, it also reduces somewhat the margin between the cost of the oil content of seed bought by crushers and the price they obtain for oil. This margin was nearly 100 percent at the old seed price.

ITALIAN HEMP PRODUCTION  
EXPECTED TO IMPROVE THIS YEAR

Production of hemp in Italy in 1955 was reported between 75 and 77 million pounds compared with 92 million in 1954 and 164 million in 1953. Increased acreage for the 1956 crop is expected to yield a larger fiber crop, which may exceed 100 million pounds by a considerable quantity.

Acreage planted to hemp in 1956 was estimated early in the year at only slightly less than 100,000 acres. Such an area exceeds the 2 preceding years and is roughly 75 percent of the 1953 area. Nearly 84,000 acres were planted in 1954 and about 69,000 acres were planted in 1955. Area figures include planting for both fiber and seed, but seed production is relatively small at 2,000 to 3,000 tons per year.

The following table shows the estimated supply and distribution of hemp fiber in Italy for the current crop year compared with the preceding year. The crop year closes September 14.

ITALY: Hemp fiber supply and distribution,  
crop years 1954-55 and 1955-56

Supply and distribution	Year ended September 14	
	1954-55	1955-56
	Million Pounds	Million Pounds
Carryover, September 15.....	29.8	4.4
Production.....	92.2	77.2
Imports.....	<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>
Total supply.....	122.0	81.6
Exports.....	b/ 31.3	27.6
Consumption.....	86.3	50.7
Stocks, September 14.....	4.4	3.3
a/ Negligible.	b/ September 1 - August 31	

The rapid decrease in production in recent years has been followed by lower stocks for carryover. Hemp production has suffered from the rapid expansion of sugar beet cultivation in the important Ferrara - Bologna region. This year, however, government efforts to reduce sugar beet area by 20 percent have been fairly successful. Hemp production is expected to profit both by the release of the land from beet production and the encouragement of an increase in the support price of raw hemp.

Officials of the "Consorzio Nazionale Produttori Canapa", which sets the support price of hemp, have stated they fear a loss of domestic sales if prices are "moderately" advanced. But they admit the present low rate of production is harmful to the industry. The possibility of a larger crop from the current plantings is encouraging to the industry.

Export of Italian hemp are shipped almost exclusively to other European countries with Germany furnishing the principal market. About one-half to two-thirds of the hemp fiber exported is in the form of raw fiber, about 10 to 15 percent is combed fiber, and the balance is tow.

#### JUTE PRICES DECLINE IN CALCUTTA

Prices of raw jute and jute manufactures were reported on a downward trend throughout April in Calcutta, with jute goods leading in the decline. Raw jute prices, however, have not stimulated any substantial buying by mill operators. The slow movement of fiber is attributed to the mills possessing sufficient quantities of raw jute to last through to the arrival of fiber from the new crop.

Mill arrivals of jute into Calcutta from Pakistan and Indian districts have been remarkably larger than in the preceding year. The Indian mills seem to be able to obtain as much jute from Pakistan as they require, in spite of restrictions in East Bengal.

Indian mills still have 5 percent of their looms sealed by Government regulation, but production is running at the highest level in over 6 years. The increased output of jute goods, since  $7\frac{1}{2}$  percent of the looms were unsealed in January and February, 1956, was absorbed largely by the internal trade and had only a small effect on the quantities produced for export.

Total stocks of jute manufactures increased, however, to 107,300 long tons (2,240 pounds each) on April 30, 1956. This is the largest quantity reported since October 1953. Current stocks consist of 35,900 tons of hessians, 62,700 of sacking, and 8,700 of other manufactures, compared with 39,000, 62,900, and 1,500 tons, respectively, a year earlier. The 95,000 tons of jute manufactures on hand March 31, 1956, consisted of 30,300 tons of hessians, 55,200 of sacking, and 9,500 of others.

The Soviet Union is reported to have placed an order for 2,700 tons of hessian in late April. The quantity was too small to have much effect in bolstering prices.



#### ITALIAN FLAX PRODUCTION CONTINUES DOWNWARD TREND

Flax fiber production in Italy was estimated at a preliminary figure of 5.5 million pounds in 1955 from 39,500 acres planted for both seed and fiber. Fiber production is less important than the seed crop. This compares with 6.5 million pounds of fiber from 43,700 acres in 1954. The outlook for the industry in 1956 is not encouraging.

Italy is a net importer of raw flax and linen yarn. The principal sources of supply are Belgium, Luxembourg, and France. Imports of flax fiber were 7.4 million pounds in 1955 against 6.4 million in the preceding year. Exports were 209 thousand pounds against 208,000.

#### COCOA CROP PROSPECTS GOOD IN BRAZIL

Weather conditions for the "temporao" (mid crop) in most of the cocoa producing area of Bahia and Espirito Santo have been nearly ideal with high temperatures and adequate rainfall. While pod rot is always a problem, there has been no report of excessive losses from this disease.

The 1956 temporao cocoa crop for Brazil is estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 80,000 long tons; 76,765 tons for Bahia State and the remainder from other areas of Brazil. With continued good weather through June and July it is possible that the temporao may exceed the present estimate.

Final 1955-56 cocoa production in Bahia State was 2,531,629 bags of 60 kgs., (149,500 long tons) according to the Bahia Cocoa Trade Commission. An estimated 100,000 bags (5,905 long tons) were produced in other areas of Brazil.

#### LARGE RAISIN, SMALL APRICOT CROP FORECAST IN IRAN

The 1956 Iranian raisin crop is forecast at approximately 60,000 short tons, or about the same as last year's crop, estimated at 61,000 tons. The weather to date has been favorable. Average production (1949-53) is 41,000 tons.

The 1956 dried apricot crop in Iran is forecast at only 4,400 tons. This would be the second short crop in succession. Last year's crop is estimated at 6,000 tons. Average production (1949-53) is 7,500 tons.

# BRAZIL'S OILSEED PRODUCTION NEAR 1955 LEVEL

Brazil's 1956 oilseed production is estimated to be about the same as in 1955 when production increased about 5 percent from the previous year.

Brazil is self-sufficient in edible oils except for significant imports of olive oil and small imports of animal fats. Official vegetable oil production data for 1955 are not yet available but the quantitative increase in output from the previous year is believed to have been at least as great as in 1954. Official statistics for 1954 show an increase from 1953 of about 12 percent in the production of edible oils and 4 percent in the production of industrial and miscellaneous vegetable oils.

Exports of vegetable oils and oilseeds in 1955 totaled 191,300 short tons, compared with 116,189 tons in 1954. Imports amounted to 11,000 tons, against 28,586 tons in 1954.

Table 1 - BRAZIL: Oilseed production, 1/ 1954-56  
(Short tons)

Oilseed	:	1954	:	1955	:	1956
Babassu kernels	:	81,550	:	88,185	:2/	82,700
Castor beans	:	187,255	:2/ 3/	143,300	:2/	181,900
Cottonseed	:	766,125	:	843,820	:2/	920,400
Dende nuts	:	4,410	:2/	5,510	:2/	6,000
Flaxseed <u>4/</u>	:	29,700	:	27,560	:2/	29,800
Oiticica seed	:	28,610	:	39,685	:2/	33,000
Ouricuri nuts	:	2,145	:	1,810	:	1,700
Peanuts (in the shell)	:	231,485	:2/ 5/	264,550	:2/ 6/	138,000
Sesame seed	:	1,090	:	880	:2/	900
Soybeans <u>7/</u>	:	129,325	:	124,100	:2/	121,250
Sunflower seed	:	1,100	:	1,100	:2/	1,100
Tucum kernels	:	4,045	:	6,600	:2/	6,600
Tung fruit	:	6,830	:	6,660	:	6,600
Murumuru	:	1,835	:	2,200	:2/	2,200
Coconuts (thousands of fruit):	:	267,130	:	277,708	:	280,000

1/ Official estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture unless otherwise noted.

2/ Unofficial estimate. 3/ Official estimate--194,900. 4/ Equivalent in 1,000 bushels: 1954-1,061; 1955-984; 1956-1,063. 5/ Official estimate - 241,250 tons. 6/ Official estimate--185,190 tons. 7/ Equivalent in 1,000 bushels: 1954-4,311; 1955-4,137; 1956-4,042.

According to trade sources there has been no new construction of oil extraction plants during the past year in Sao Paulo, Brazil's principal industrial area. Crushing capacity in this area already is considerably in excess of local oilseed production and mills have to draw on other parts of Brazil for supplies. The industry has almost completed the change-over from hydraulic to solvent extraction begun about 3 years ago.

The new castor bean crushing plant in Salvador with an annual capacity of about 38,500 short tons is expected to start operations before the end of 1956. Stocking of castor beans for crushing in Salvador has already been started. The construction of a castor oil plant in Bahia is expected to start soon, and a new solvent extraction plant for soybeans is being built in Porto Alegre. This plant should aid soybean expansion in the South which until now has depended solely on the export market owing to lack of crushing facilities.

Cottonseed available for crushing in 1956 is unofficially estimated at 827,000 tons, compared with the trade estimate of 740,000 tons in 1955. Although cottonseed oil production should be considerably greater in 1956, the increase will be offset largely by a reduction in peanut oil output. An unofficial forecast is 94,000 tons of cottonseed oil, against about 83,000 tons (unofficial) produced in 1955.

Peanut production is expected to decline sharply this year. Output in the State of Sao Paulo, the principal producing area, is estimated officially at 138,000 tons, in contrast to 244,380 tons in 1955. Plantings were reduced considerably owing to low prices and competition from other crops.

Exports of peanuts, which normally are insignificant, amounted to 19,800 tons in 1955. This situation was accounted for by the small 1954 crop in the United States and the high prices paid in that market for Brazilian peanuts. It is unlikely that any peanuts will be exported this year.

Soybean production in 1956 is unofficially estimated at 4 million bushels, about the same as in 1955. Rio Grande do Sul continues to be the principal producing state. Output in Sao Paulo has increased very slowly owing to competition from other crops, especially cotton. Production is expected to increase considerably in the next few years as the new solvent extraction plants begin to operate.

Soybean exports in 1955 at 1,888,000 bushels were double those of 1954, with Japan the principal market.

Reliable trade sources are of the opinion that official statistics of castor bean production are too high. Production in 1956 is forecast by the trade at 181,900 tons, compared with 143,000 tons in 1955. The 1956 crop may be even higher. With higher prices, favorable weather, and the prospect of new crushing plants, production in the northeast appears to be increasing considerably. Sao Paulo production continues to decline because of competition from more profitable crops. Castor oil production is estimated at 79,000 tons in 1956 against 60,600 tons last year.



In August 1955, the Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil (CACEX) increased the export price for castor beans from Cr \$3.00 per kilo to Cr \$5.50. As a result of reduced supplies keen competition has developed between domestic crushers and exporters for castor beans. During March the United States reportedly purchased 2,000 metric tons (2,200 short tons) of beans at prices ranging from U. S. \$145 to \$150 per metric ton (\$132 to \$136 per short ton). Germany also made purchases at similar prices.

Castor bean exports in 1955 totaled 67,692 tons.

The prospects for babassu still appear uncertain as the industry faces chronic difficulties of increasing costs, low prices being paid for babassu kernels, and competition from alternative outlets for labor. Production in 1956 is expected to be reduced to possibly 83,000 tons from the 88,000 tons in 1955.

Exports of babassu kernels in 1955 amounted to 8,521 tons, all to the United States.

Oiticica production this year also is expected to be down--perhaps to 33,000 tons, from the relatively large crop of 40,000 to 44,000 tons produced last year. Oiticica oil exports totaled 9,913 tons in 1955, largely to the United States. As domestic demand and prices are increasing, exports may decline this year.

Table 2 - BRAZIL: Oilseed and vegetable oil exports,  
1954 and 1955

(Short tons)

Commodity	1954	1955
Castor beans.....	65,006	67,692
Soybeans 1/.....	27,937	56,647
Peanuts (shelled).....	0	19,804
Peanuts (unshelled).....	14	228
Babassu kernels.....	2/	8,521
Castor oil.....	16,729	27,355
Tung oil.....	0	427
Oiticica oil.....	5,661	9,913
Others.....	842	714
Total.....	116,189	191,301

1/ Equivalent in 1,000 bushels: 1954 - 931; 1955 - 1,888. 2/ Less than .5 ton.

Source: Ministry of Finance.

# JAPAN'S OILSEED PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS EXPECTED TO BE LARGE IN 1956

Japan's production of oilseeds is expected to be large again in 1956 but imports, forecast at 1.1 million short tons, will again supply over one-half of the country's oilseed requirements. Production in 1955 of soybeans, rapeseed and mustard seed, sesame seed and peanuts was higher than in 1954.

Production of soybeans, by far the most widely used oilseed, is expected to expand in 1956 because of increased demand. Production in 1955 increased to 18.6 million bushels from 13.8 million in 1954. Imports increased from 18.7 million bushels in 1954 to 29.7 million in 1955, and consumption increased from 33 million to about 48 million bushels. Consumption in 1956 is expected to be about as large as last year. In Japan, indigenous soybeans and their products, including soybean meal, are used almost entirely as food.

The wholesale price of imported soybeans in 1955 was substantially below that of 1954, due to the increase in imports. The wholesale price of indigenous beans from January through August 1955 was considerably lower than in the same period of 1954, but rose sharply in September and October when import licensing was retarded because of the uncertainty about allocation of funds for the purpose of buying Chinese soybeans. The price of indigenous soybeans declined sharply in November when a large quantity of imported beans began to arrive at the same time as the bumper crop began to appear on the market. The decline in the wholesale price was so sharp that the government was requested to take measures to prevent a further decline.

The first step of the government in supporting the price of indigenous soybeans was to postpone the second licensing of 46,000 metric tons of soybeans until late March 1956. At the same time the government postponed the sale of 45,000 tons of soybeans stocked for feed purposes until late March 1956. This action caused a rise in wholesale prices of imported and indigenous soybeans in February 1956.

Since March, the sharp rise in the quoted prices in the United States markets and a substantial rise in the price quotation from the Communist Chinese resulted in a sharp rise in the price of indigenous soybeans.

Table 1 - JAPAN: Government allocation of foreign funds for importing soybeans for the second half of Japanese fiscal year 1955 1/

	Consumer allocation		Importer allocation		Total	
	1,000		1,000		1,000	
	metric tons	bushels	metric tons	bushels	metric tons	bushels
First licensing						
Oil crushing.....	134.0	4,923.6	57.4	2,109.1	191.4	7,032.7
Food use.....	36.8	1,352.2	15.8	580.5	52.6	1,932.7
Subtotal.....	170.8	6,275.8	73.2	2,689.6	244.0	8,965.4
Feed.....	-	-	45.0	1,653.4:2/	45.0	1,653.4
Total.....	170.8	6,275.8	118.2	4,343.0	289.0	10,618.8
Second Licensing						
Oil crushing.....	14.0	514.4	6.0	220.5	20.0	734.9
Food use.....	18.2	668.7	7.8	286.6	26.0	955.3
Subtotal.....	32.2	1,183.1	13.8	507.1	46.0	1,690.2
Feed.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	32.2	1,183.1	13.8	507.1:3/	46.0	1,690.2

1/ October 1955 - March 1956. 2/ All of the 45,000 tons was not sold by the government until late March 1956. 3/ All of the 46,000 tons was not licensed until late March 1956.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Table 2 - JAPAN: Government allocation of foreign funds for importing soybeans for Japanese fiscal year 1956 1/

	1st half year		2nd half year		Year total	
	1,000		1,000		1,000	
	metric tons	bushels	metric tons	bushels	metric tons	bushels
Oil crushing <u>2/</u> .....	250.0	9,185.8	253.0	9,296.1	503.0	18,481.9
Food use.....	80.0	2,939.5	82.0	3,012.9	162.0	5,952.4
Total.....	330.0	12,125.3	335.0	12,309.0	665.0	24,434.3

1/ April 1956 - March 1957.

2/ Includes feed purposes, i.e. meal part of which to be used for feed.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.



In addition to the quantity in Table 2, some soybeans planned for the second half of the Japanese fiscal year (JFY) 1955 and licensed in late March are expected to arrive during this year. Moreover, about 40,000 tons (1.5 million bushels) of soybeans may be imported in exchange for exported soybean products, such as monosodium glutamate, soy sauce and soy paste. The quantity of imported soybeans under this regulation is to be proportional to the size of exports.

Table 3 - JAPAN: Soybean allocation by purpose and by source for the first half of Japanese fiscal year 1956 1/

Purpose	Global <u>2/</u>		Brazil		Total	
	1,000		1,000		1,000	
	Metric tons	bushels	Metric tons	bushels	Metric tons	bushels
Oil crushing.....	189.0	:6,944.5:	5.0	: 183.7 :	194.0	:7,128.2
Food.....	75.0	:2,755.7:	5.0	: 183.7 :	80.0	:2,939.4
Feed.....	46.0	:1,690.2:	-	: - :	46.0	:1,690.2
For exporting oil <u>3/</u>	10.0	: 367.4:	-	: - :	10.0	: 367.4
Total.....	320.0	:11,757.8:	10.0	: 367.4 :	330.0	:12,125.2

1/ April - September 1956. 2/ Free competition between countries. 3/ Oil processed from soybeans of this category has to be exported.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (unofficial)

The above table does not include the soybeans to be imported, estimated at 20,000 tons (.7 million bushels), in exchange for exported soybean products.

As of mid-May no report had been made about the licensing of the soybean imports scheduled for the first half of JFY 1956. Unofficial sources, however, expect that 70 percent of the global fund, excluding feed purposes and exchange for exported oil, will be allocated on a consumer basis and 30 percent on an importer basis. Also, expectations are that imports of soybeans for feed will be licensed to the importers and soybeans for exported oil to the crushers. Imports of Brazilian beans is to be made under the automatic approval system.

When Japanese importers negotiated with the Communist Chinese Fats, Oils and Grains Corporation in early March 1956, the latter offered to sell at £ 39 per metric ton (\$2.97 per bushel) for a volume over 50,000 tons (1.8 million bushels). At the offered price, 20 Japanese companies offered to purchase on March 15 quantities in excess of 150,000 tons (5.5 million bushels). The Communist Chinese Corporation then agreed to sell only 60,000 tons (2.2 million bushels). As a result of the rise in price of American soybeans, China now will not agree to export even at a price of £ 44 (\$3.35). The most recently reported contract was for about 20,000 tons (.7 million bushels) at £ 50-10 (\$3.85 per bushel) (See Foreign Crops and Markets, June 18, 1956.)

A shift from the foreign fund allocation system to the automatic approval (AA) system is anticipated by about next October 1. By Cabinet Order 84 of April 1, 1956, the Japanese Government extended the term of tariff exemptions on soybeans from March 31 to September 30, 1956. Indications are that the tax might be charged after that date when the AA system may be applied on the importation of soybeans. Even in such an event, it is expected that the import tax on soybeans used in processing will be paid back. The Feed Demand and Supply Stabilization Law provides the exemptions of customs tariffs on soybeans imported for feed purposes, and the same arrangement is anticipated for other imported soybeans to be used for oil processing.

Rapeseed production in 1955 at 297,000 short tons was almost one-fourth larger than in 1954. A further increase in planted area is indicated for the 1956 crop. A government support price for the 1956 crop, somewhat larger than the support for the 1955 crop (equivalent of \$133 per metric ton or \$121 per short ton), is anticipated.

Japan's production in short tons of other oil bearing materials in 1955 was as follows: peanuts - 36,000; sesame seed - 7,000; cottonseed - 350; flaxseed - 3,900; and rice bran - 500,000.

Japan's total supply of marine oil in 1955 was about 145,000 short tons, of which only small quantities were imported; 62,000 tons was exported and about 63,000 tons was consumed. About 48,000 tons of margarine and 22,000 tons of shortening were produced and consumed in Japan in 1955.

#### LARGE TURKISH RAISIN AND FIG CROP FORECAST

Early reports from Turkey on the forthcoming raisin crop indicate a crop of 88,000 short tons, the largest pack on record in the 26 years for which figures are available. This follows the very short raisin crop of 1955 when only 44,000 tons were produced due to unfavorable weather. Average production (1949-53) was 74,000 tons.

An exceptionally large dried fig harvest is also forecast. Current indications point to a 1956 pack of 38,500 tons, the largest in 10 years. The 1955 pack was estimated at 31,000 tons, and average (1949-53) at 27,800 tons.

#### BUMPER TURKISH FILBERT CROP FORECAST

Based on preliminary indications, the 1956 Turkish filbert crop will be the largest on record. The crop is currently forecast at 130,000 short tons, unshelled. This is the "on-year" in Turkish filbert production, following the small crop last year of 50,000 tons. Average production (1949-53) was 65,200 tons.

MAY U.S. EXPORTS OF COTTONSEED,  
SOYBEAN OILS, OILCAKES STILL HIGH

Exports of soybean oil continued at a record rate in May, according to preliminary Census Bureau data adjusted by the Foreign Agricultural Service. Estimated soybean oil exports of 48.4 million pounds were nearly 13 times those of May 1955 and the January-May total is 14 times that of the same period in 1955.

Cottonseed oil, too, maintained a high rate of export. Though the increases in shipments from the 1955 levels--146 percent for May, 28 percent for January-May--are not so spectacular as for soybean oil, the quantity of cottonseed oil exported during the first five months of this year was nearly 90 million pounds greater than that of soybean oil.

While May exports of soybean cake were three times the May 1955 level, they were nearly 8,000 tons less than in April. (Exports of soybeans in May are estimated at 4.5 million bushels, based on inspection reports, bringing the five months total to 20.5 million bushels.) Exports of all oilcakes and meals in May except peanut, were 44 percent above last year and January-May exports were double those of the first five months of 1955.

COTTONSEED OIL, SOYBEAN OIL, OILCAKES AND MEALS: Preliminary estimates  
of United States exports in May and January-May, 1956 and 1955

Commodity	1956		1955	
	May	Jan-May	May	Jan-May
	(Estimated)		(Actual)	
	Million pounds			
Cottonseed oil, refined	22.5	136.0	0.6	147.9
Cottonseed oil, refined and further processed	17.3	76.0	17.3	40.5
Cottonseed oil, crude	10.7	90.6	2.6	47.9
Total cottonseed oil	50.5	302.6	20.5	236.3
Soybean oil, refined	5.3	37.4	2.8	9.8
Soybean oil, refined and further processed	37.7	156.0	0.6	3.6
Soybean oil, crude	5.4	21.3	0.4	2.0
Total soybean oil	48.4	214.7	3.8	15.4
	Thousand short tons			
Cottonseed cake and meal	4.1	30.8	10.2	41.9
Linseed cake and meal	4.1	44.4	3.7	10.0
Soybean cake and meal	22.9	157.9	7.7	65.0
Total cake and meal 1/	31.1	233.1	21.6	116.9

1/ Excluding peanut cake and meal, exports of which have been negligible since 1952.



NOTE: The estimates for May 1956 are based on preliminary data prepared by the Census Bureau for special Foreign Trade Reports Nos. FT 5502 and 5503. These data represent totals of weekly processing of export declarations (covering shipments valued at \$5,000 and over for oils and \$1,000 and over for cake and meal) for inclusion in the statistical month concerned and are subject to revision before they are included in the Census Bureau's published figures. The Foreign Agricultural Service has made certain adjustments in the original data to make allowance for export shipments not included in Reports Nos. FT 5502 and 5503. The figures for January-May 1956 were obtained by adding published export data for January-April to the preliminary FAS estimates for May. The error between the April preliminary estimates published in Foreign Crops and Markets of May 28, 1956, and the published export data for April was less than 5 percent for each of the three totals shown in the table.

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World Soybean Production Again Establishes New Record. Foreign Agriculture Circular FFO 5-56.

Milk Production and Utilization in Principal Producing Countries in 1955. Foreign Agriculture Circular FD 4-56.

Summary of 1955 U.S. Agricultural Exports by Destination. Foreign Agriculture Circular FATP 17-56

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